

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 USUN N 03822 150206Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----031451 150223Z /20

O R 150042Z OCT 77

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6250
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3822

EXDIS

LONDON FOR DICK MOOSE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:

SUBJECT: RHODESIA: US ROLE - CARVER-CHAND NEGOTIATIONS

SUMMARY: UN UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL URQUHART BELIEVES US ROLE IN RELATION TO CARVER-CHAND NEGOTIATIONS IS DESIRABLE, EVEN ESSENTIAL. HE BELIEVES PRINCIPAL AFRICAN ELEMENTS WOULD WANT SOME KIND OF US ROLE IN PROCESS. HE FEELS STRONGLY, HOWEVER, THAT A US OFFICER OF ANY RANK ATTACHED TO CARVER-CHAND TEAM AND PARTICIPATING IN TALKS WOULD LIKELY TRIGGER SOVIET COMPLAINTS AND TROUBLE-MAKING. HE SUGGESTED WE THINK ABOUT HOW BEST TO STRUCTURE A US ROLE AND HOLD DECISION UNTIL PREM CHAND RETURNS TO NEW YORK FOLLOWING HIS LONDON TALK ON OCTOBER 21. END SUMMARY.

1. POLCOUNS OCTOBER 14 ASKED URQUHART FOR HIS VIEWS ON APPROPRIATE AND MOST EFFECTIVE US ROLE IN RELATION TO CARVER-CHAND NEGOTIATIONS. JAMES JONAH OF URQUHART'S STAFF, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 USUN N 03822 150206Z

WHO IS ACCOMPANYING PREM CHAND TO LONDON, WAS ALSO PRESENT. JONAH SAID PREM CHAND PLANS TO RETURN TO NEW YORK LATE OCTOBER 20 AND WISHES TO REVIEW RESOLUTS OF HIS LONDON TALKS WITH AMBASSADOR YOUNG ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21.

2. URQUHART AND JONAH AGREED THAT ANY US OFFICER, OF WHATEVER RANK OR IDENTITY, ATTACHED TO CARVER-PREM CHAND TEAM

WOULD BE ALMOST CERTAIN TO DRAW INTENSIVE SOVIET OBJECTION. RECALLING SOVIET TROUBLE MAKING ON SUCH PROCEDURAL PRETEXTS DURING CONGO OPERATION, URQUHART SAID RISK OF SERIOUS TROUBLE WITH SOVIETS IN FUTURE SECURITY COUNCIL ACTIONS ON RHODESIA MADE IT UNWISE TO CONSIDER ASSIGNING AN AMERICAN TO TRAVEL WITH AND SIT WITH TEAM IN ANY OFFICIAL TALKS CONCERNING RHODESIAN PROBLEM.

3. URQUHART SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE BELIEVES IT IS HIGHLY DESIRABLE, INDEED ESSENTIAL, TO DEVELOP AN EFFECTIVE US ROLE IN RELATION TO THIS EXERCISE. HE HAD NOT AS YET DEVELOPED A REAL IDEA OF HOW THIS COULD BE DONE WITHOUT CREATING TROUBLE WITH SOVIETS AND OTHERS, BUT HE WAS CONVINCED THAT MAJOR AFRICAN PLAYERS WOULD WELCOME A US ROLE IN RELATION TO NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID SOME OF THEM MAY EVEN INSIST UPON IT. HE SUGGESTED THAT IDENTITY OR RANK OF OFFICER ASSIGNED IS PROBABLY LESS IMPORTANT THAN MODE OF OPERATIONS THAT IS AGREED UPON. HE VISUALIZED A NEED FOR THE AMERICAN TO BE FREE NOT ONLY OF OFFICIAL IDENTITY WITH TEAM BUT ALSO FREE OF NEGOTIATING WORK-LOAD. HE SAID MOST IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION AN AMERICAN MIGHT MAKE WOULD BE MORE IN NATURE OF INTELLIGENCE AND LIAISON BETWEEN A CARVER-PREM CHAND TEAM AND VARIOUS PARTIES TO NEGOTIATIONS. HE SUGGESTED THAT AN AMERICAN FOREIGN SERVICE OFFICER ASSIGNED TO THIS DUTY ALONE BE PRE-POSITIONED IN A NEIGHBORING POST SUCH AS LUSAKA. HE SEVERAL TIMES MENTIONED THE THOUGHT OF A US MILITARY OFFICER BUT REJECTED IT ON GROUNDS OF SPECIAL CAPABILITY

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 USUN N 03822 150206Z

REQUIRED FOR EFFECTIVE FUNCTION IN THIS EMERGING ROLE. HE SPECIFICALLY SPOKE HIGHLY OF STEVE LOW, WHO HE KNOWS ONLY BY REPUTATION AND SAW NO OBJECTION WITH CONSIDERING HIM FOR THIS FUNCTION IF HIS DUTIES IN LUSAKA WOULD PERMIT IT. HE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT HOW SUCH A US OFFICER WOULD BE ABLE TO MOVE FREELY IN AND OUT OF RHODESIA.

4. URQUHART CONCLUDED WITH THOUGHT THAT, SINCE NATURE OF THIS US ROLE MUST TO A LARGE EXTENT DEPEND UPON DEVELOPMENT OF CARVER-PREM CHAND TACTICAL PLANS, IT MIGHT BE WISE TO WITHHOLD DECISION ABOUT NATURE OF US ROLE AND IDENTITY OF AMERICAN SELECTED FOR IT UNTIL WE CAN TALK AGAIN WITH PREM CHAND HERE IN NEW YORK ON OCTOBER 21. HE THOUGHT THERE WOULD BE TIME AFTER THAT TO DEVELOPE AN AGREED PICTURE OF A US ROLE AND GET AN OFFICER IN PLACE BEFORE COMMENCEMENT OF SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS IN AFRICA. HE ADVISED, THEREFORE, THAT WE HOLD DECISION ON THIS MATTER UNTIL WE CAN DISCUSS IT AGAIN NEXT WEEK.

5. FOR MOOSE: JAMES JONAH SAID PREM CHAND VERY MUCH WISHES TO HAVE A CHANCE TO CHAT WITH YOU AGAIN IF YOUR SCHEDULE PERMITS IN LONDON THIS WEEKEND. IF IT IS AT ALL FEASIBLE, YOU MAY WISH TO CONTACT PREM CHAND THROUGH APPROPRIATE BRITISH CHANNELS.

6. COMMENT: WE AGREE WITH THE THRUST OF URQUHART'S ADVICE THAT A US ROLE IN THE CARVER-CHAND NEGOTIATIONS IS NEEDED, BUT THAT THE US OFFICIAL PICKED SHOULD NOT BE FORMALLY ATTACHED TO THE TEAM.

REGARDING OUR CHOICE OF THAT OFFICIAL, WE BELIEVE THAT HE SHOULD BE ACTIVE, FLEXIBLE, AND EXPERIENCED ENOUGH TO SERVE AS AN EFFECTIVE CONTACT POINT FOR THE DISPARATE GROUPS AND FORCES, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHO MAY NOT ACTUALLY BE AT THE CONFERENCE TABLES. WE EXPECT THAT PREM CHAND AND CARVER WILL BE VERY MUCH INVOLVED IN MORE OR LESS FORMAL DISCUSSIONS. WE WOULD HOPE THAT THE US OFFICIAL, FREED FROM THE INEVITABLE FORMALITIES, COULD ACTIVELY SERVE AS A MOBILE PAIR OF EYES AND EARS, PULLING IN IDEAS AND ELEMENTS THAT COULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 USUN N 03822 150206Z

IMPORTANT IN READING AN OVERALL SOLUTION.

7. STEVE LOW, OF COURSE, VERY MUCH FILLS OUR DEFINITION OF THE KIND OF PERSONALITY REQUIRED. WE REMAIN CONCERNED, HOWEVER, THAT HIS RANK AND STATUS AS A NEGOTIATOR MAY INEVITABLY LEAD OTHERS TO TIE HIM DOWN TO THE FORMAL DISCUSSIONS. HE COULD FIND IT MORE DIFFICULT THAN A MORE JUNIOR MAN TO STAY IN THE FIELD. INSOFAR AS HE IS TIED TO THE FORMAL DISCUSSIONS, HE INCREASES THE DANGER STRESSED BY URQUHART OF HIS OVER-ASSOCIATION AS A MEMBER OF THE TEAM. WE ALSO AGREE WITH THE POINT RAISED BY OTHERS THAT THE PRESENCE OF SOMEONE LIKE STEVE WOULD TEMPT NKOMO TO ACCELERATE TO THE POLITICAL PLANE THAT MUCH SOONER.

END COMMENT.
YOUNG

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977USUNN03822
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770378-0397
Format: TEL
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19771056/aaaabvhi.tel
Line Count: 152
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 507e422e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 903553
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: US ROLE - CARVER-CHAND NEGOTIATIONS SUMMARY: UN UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL URQUHART BELIEVES US ROLE IN RELATION TO CARVER-CHAND NEGOTIATIONS IS DESIRA
TAGS: PORG, PDEV, RH, SF, US, UN, (PREM CHAND, D), (CARVER)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/507e422e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009